

O 201731Z MAR 03
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE
SPECIAL EMBASSY PROGRAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 073569

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AMGT](#)

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY POWELL

THE MOMENT OF TRUTH HAS ARRIVED, AND MILITARY OPERATIONS TO DISARM IRAQ HAVE BEGUN. MORE THAN 30 NATIONS HAVE JOINED WITH THE UNITED STATES TO FREE THE IRAQI PEOPLE AND DEFEND THE WORLD FROM THE GRAVE DANGER POSED BY IRAQ'S WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

AT THIS TIME OF TRIAL AND DANGER, I WANT TO COMMEND AND THANK EVERY MEMBER OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT FAMILY. EACH DAY, YOU SERVE OUR COUNTRY WITH PRIDE, COURAGE, AND SACRIFICE. IN THE DAYS AHEAD, I KNOW I CAN COUNT ON YOUR CONTINUED DEDICATION AND DEVOTION TO COUNTRY.

FOR THOSE OF OUR STATE DEPARTMENT FAMILY WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED UP TO SERVE WITH THE MILITARY, WE HOPE AND PRAY THAT YOU WILL RETURN SAFELY TO YOUR LOVED ONES AND TO YOUR COLLEAGUES IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

[1](#)2. MINIMIZED CONSIDERED.

POWELL